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Applicants: Michael Rumer, Jack Griswold, Tom Dorsh, Michael Ng, David E. Reedy, Paul D. Healey, Michal Danek and Reed W. Rosenberg

Assignee: Novellus Systems, Inc.

Title: PVD Deposition Process For Improved Aluminum Film Performance

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Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown

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San Jose, California  
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the documents listed on the accompanying PTO Form-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner for the above patent application. Copies of these documents are enclosed.

Citation of these documents shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 18, 2000.

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10/18/00  
Signature

Respectfully submitted,

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